

Wards 4 and 7 NPA
May 25, 2016
The Miller Center, Gosse Court, Burlington
Draft Minutes

Start 7:03pm

Steering Committee present: Martha Molpus-Ward 7, Linda DeLiduka-Ward 7, Liam Griffin-Ward 7, David Kirk-Ward 7, Ken Petterson-Ward 4, Matthew Cropp-Ward 4

Ground-rules, Introductions, Announcement, and Requests

Ground rules overview and round room introductions and announcements

Steering Committee purchased small projector and USB microphone to record Steering Committee meetings.

Martha Molpus shared that senior center participation has declined but there is an increase senior population. Heineburg Senior Center recently changed name to Heineburg Community and Senior Center and programs offered is open for everyone.

Cindy Cook announced she was hired by Dept. of Public Works to do North Ave public engagement about North Ave Pilot.

Lea Terhune announced Leddy Park Beach Bikes Event. Event will take place every Wednesday starting on June 1st.

Ann Taylor announced that Don Sinex will be at Wards 4 and 7 June NPA

Nominations and Elections for Steering Committee

Wards 4 and 7 Steering Committee has open seats and can have up to nine seats on each Ward and are open for nominations. Steering Committee meetings happen first Wednesday of every month 7pm at Miller Center and are open to the public. Next one is on June 1st, 2016.

Open Forum/Resident Speak-Out

Carol Ode-running for State Legislator for the House in district 6-1.

Ann Taylor-Wants to be community liaison for Don Sinex to bring to NPAs to ask the developer directly who haven't been able to attend the previous public process

Kurt Wright running for re-election for House of Representative

Orphanage Re-development Update, Eric Farrell

Eric Farrell-Orphanage redevelopment-made sketch plan presentation to Design Advisory Board on May 24th 2016. Farrell originally purchased 33.65 acre parcel. Sold 12 acres to the City. Farrell held on to 15.65 acres, with the College retaining 6 acres. Almost 3 acres will be sold to Champlain Housing Trust (CHT) and Cathedral Square (CSC) to build affordable family and senior housing. Overall plan will have senior housing, condos for sale and rentals, 375 rentals, 180 condos, 70 senior, 76 family CHT. Approximately two-thirds of all parking will be underground in one or two story structured parking. A new public street will be created and the bus stop will be moved closer to the senior housing.

Now with the close of Burlington College, Farrell will be purchasing the college property. There will be zoning change in height due to the fact that the greatest height is allowable on the land purchased by the City and public input that asked for density to move closer to North Avenue. Current is 45-60 feet –except on the 6 acre College parcel, where there is an exception that allows you to build as tall as the Orphanage -- but measurement from the same building can measure differently from front to back because building is on a slope. There will be a light put in at main southern entrance which studies showed that 85% of traffic would come from because of downtown. Orphanage will have some changes – the A frame will be removed from the front, the slate roof will be replaced with copper, and windows will be replaced with similar windows but not anything else more. Not going for Leed Certified Building but Farrell will build as energy efficiently as he can and look into solar.

Working with public works to look at sewer system. For question email

efarrell@farrellreestate.com or visit <http://farrellrealestatevt.com/>

Coalition for Livable Community (CLC), Steve Goodguy, Karen Long, Michael Long, and Charles Simpson.

CLC not against redevelopment of mall but for smart growth. Should be able to count on City Leaders to make the right choices. Don Sinex is not asking for a small change but a huge zoning change. This is not smart growth. This development is outside of character of the path of what Burlingtons imagined in Plan BTV. The mall redevelopment needs to happen but the City and Don Sinex is changing all the zoning and ordinances and moving too quickly. A mall of this size is from Church Street to Macy. The developer bought the mall for 200million and wants to make a profit of at least 400k. The bench march of this development is 165 feet. If going to create at this height then affordable housing, jobs, and other public good must be included. None of the 80 units of student housing will be taxed. The Planning Commission is reviewing the Zoning changes and then will go to the City Council to a vote.

Elected and Appointed Officials

State Representative Joanna Cole-Session is out. Currently voter Registration is available online or on forms. Starting in January 2017 after presidential election will be able to do same day voter registration. July 2017 automatic voter registration at Department of Motor Vehicle and automatically be registered for voter registration if meet requirements unless opted out. Created License Forester to professionalize this field and ensure there are professional Foresters that understand land management. If someone refers

themselves as Forester then they need to have credentials. This will also protect consumers.

State Representative Kurt Wright-Had a Picus Report come to the State that identified savings in Special Education. Schools not yet identified but there is going to be pilot conducted to see if schools can have same saving in Special Education as found in Picus Report study. Burlington Town Center redevelopment, if City Council didn't vote on preapproval then development project would be stopped and didn't want to be put in this position. Many business owners are in support for Burlington Town Center redevelopment. Height was pushed on and put in some safe guard. Voters will have say in November. Budget in good shape and no tax increase and 1/2penny reduction. Looking at City Department Head Hardship matter and sponsored Senior Center Resolution to support center programs and services.

David Kirk, School Board

All courses that were recommended to be cut have been replaced. School Board supports superintendent. High School is 200 students less than 5 years ago but with the same amount of teacher. With careful deliberation teacher reductions were looked at. 70 million need to get our District back into shape. Asking in bonds and collaborating with City. This doesn't only include teachers but infrastructure. Working on putting the budget on the website for transparency. In negotiation with Burlington Education Association and the union push back negotiation to June 30. Contact won't be ready until start of school new year. Can Tech and BHS be not incorporated together because different budget. Library will be open full time.

Councilor Tom Ayers-Representing City Council to be liaison with Parks and Recreation and Farrell on the public process and how development will unfold. Working with Councilors Wright and Hartnett to put together a resolution to thank and disband N. Ave Task force. On June 7th 6:30 at the Miller Center there will be the first public engagement meeting to start off of series of public engagement process. Meetings will be available on CCTV.

Director of Department of Public Works, Chapin Spencer-On June 7th there will be an update on North Ave Corridor Study on what's been done and Cindy Cook will introduce her North Ave. public engagement plan on to gather public feedback about North Ave. Pilot. Cindy Cook will also communicate her engagement plan through North Ave News. Will update the website and have regular meeting to engagement directly with the community especially with N. Ave. All reports will go in front City Council on Oct. 17th. DPW is aware that there is 7 miles of streets that don't have sidewalks. Going to pursue grants and local dollars to lay down more sidewalks.

Meeting adjourned 9:05pm

Minutes submitted by Phet Keomanyvanh-CEDO Community Development Specialist

